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Writers' Circle

Local creative writers showcase their work. See page 9

Dining Together

Lunch club introduces residents to unique restaurant experiences. See page 2

Music Profile

Stan Russell has had an exciting career in music. See page 13

Haliburton's Steve Stiles negotiates a corner on the ice racing course he creates and maintains on Grass Lake on Sunday, March 4 in Haliburton. Stiles is an ice racing competitor, who finished a series season organized by the Oshawa Competition Motorcycle Club. He hopes to bring one of these series races next year and is working toward building a greater following for ice racing in Haliburton. Stiles is offering the public an opportunity to try out ice racing every Sunday between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. on Grass Lake. Contact him at s.stiles@live.ca for details. /DARREN LUM Staff

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Roving Lunch Club brings community together

NATE SMELLE
County Life Staff

Sharing a delicious meal with family, friends or neighbours is one of the great joys in life.

For the past six years, the Roving Lunch Club has been celebrating this pleasurable ritual by gathering and dining at a different restaurant in Haliburton County on the first Friday of every month from March to December. Founded by the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Community Support Services in 2013, the club now provides an opportunity for anywhere from 50 to 80 diners to enjoy great food and a unique dining experience at a reasonable price.

HHHS community outreach co-ordinator, Nancy Brownsberger explained that the purpose of the club is to encourage and support participants (seniors age 55+ or adults with disabilities) to live as healthfully as possible, by providing them with access to reasonably priced nutritious food and the opportunity for social engagement in the community they love.

"The Roving Lunch Club offers luncheon gatherings in unique restaurants that are situated in some of the most beautiful spots in the Haliburton Highlands," Brownsberger said.

"Different than the original Diners Club locations – which remain the same every month and are just as well attended with phenomenal food and locations themselves – our Roving Lunch Club participants might find themselves lakeside or picnicking in a parklike setting."

New this year, the club has incorporated a pre-luncheon coffee/cocktail and chat time, with games which gives participants a chance to get to know others who are attending. Brownsberger said the club provides the opportunity to feature upcoming special events or social/recreational activities, program updates and service overviews. Not only does the club help to improve the quality of life of the diners, she said it also helps gain exposure for participating local restaurants.

"Our participants may not have the opportunity to access these restaurants otherwise due to a sometimes higher-priced menu or availability during peak times of the year," she said.

> ***The Roving Lunch Club offers luncheon gathering in unique restaurants that are situated in some of the most beautiful spots in the Haliburton Highlands.***
>
> — Nancy Brownsberger
> HHHS community outreach co-ordinator

The Roving Lunch Club provides the opportunity for anywhere from 50 to 80 diners to enjoy great food and a unique dining experience at a reasonable price.

"We believe that this program is a win-win for the participants as well as the businesses, who reach another segment of our population they might otherwise not have the opportunity to entertain. The participants always rave at the quality of the food and service provided."

The cost per meal for club members is set at a maximum of $25 (gratuities included). Brownsberger said each month the club posts its next dining destination on the HHHS Facebook page and on its website at: www.hhhs.ca. New participants wishing to join the Roving Lunch Club are advised to contact Brownsberger by phone at: 705-457-2941 ext. 2922; or by email at: nbrownsberger@hhhs.ca

County Life

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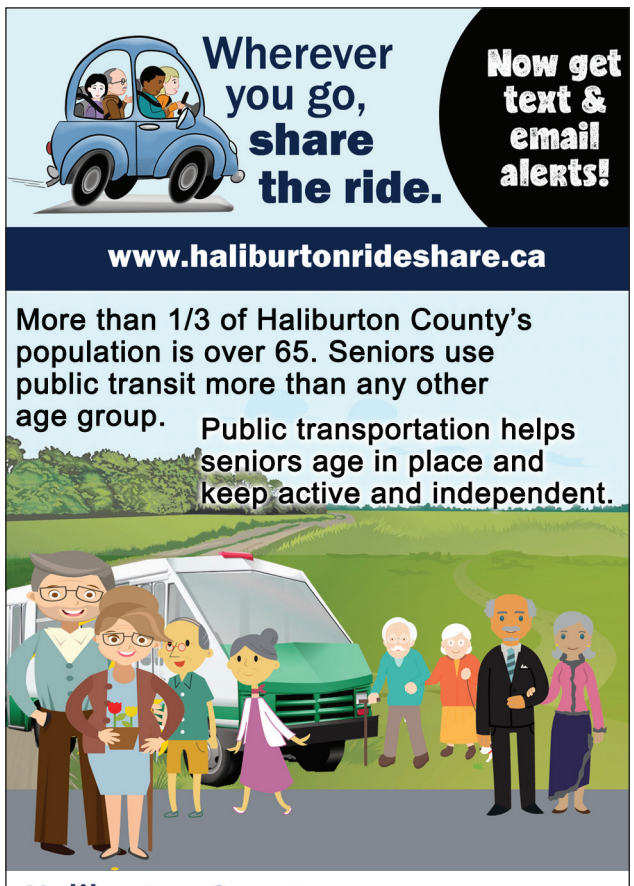
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March break: Things to do in Haliburton County

NATE SMELLE
County Life Staff

With plenty of things to do in Haliburton County over the March break, anyone still contemplating going away on vacation may want to consider a staycation instead. Whether seeking adventure, relaxation or education, one does not have to roam far from home to find the experience he or she is looking for. Each of the following destinations has a variety events and activities aiming to please visitors of all ages.

There are several days of structured activities at Abbey Gardens during March break. You can also visit to explore the trails, enjoy lunch or visit the ponies./Photo submitted

Abbey Gardens

During the March break, Abbey Gardens will be offering a series of exciting and interactive programs designed to inspire, educate and entertain children between the ages of six and 11. To kick off the break, program co-ordinator and ecological specialist Cara Steele said they are hosting a special snowshoe and lunch on Saturday, March 10 from 10 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. ($25 per person includes the cost of the snowshoe rental as well as lunch).

"Our March break programs offer a wide variety of activities for children to learn about cooking, ecology, nature and art," said Steele.

"There's something for everyone."

Steele said the Outdoor Kids program, which runs on Tuesday, March 13, aims to connect children to the natural world through fun and engaging activities. She said kids who participate will get a chance to make a healthy snack together before heading out on the trail to learn how to use a compass and explore.

On Wednesday, March 14, chef Aaron Walker will be at Abbey Gardens to lead the Kids in the Kitchen program. This program will get the children to roll up their sleeves and create an apple pizza from scratch. Next on the list is the Falling in Love with Nature program that takes place on Thursday, March 15. Steele said this program will inspire children to discover nature through a unique, sensory adventure that will awaken their senses and enhance their appreciation of the natural world.

On Friday, March 16 local artist Lisa Barry of Homestead Pottery will be at Abbey Gardens encouraging kids to explore their artistic side, by teaching them how to build clay sculptures of chickens and ponies as part of a clay workshop. In addition to the March break programming, Steele said visitors are welcome to drop by the Food Hub for homemade lunch, visit the ponies, explore the trails or enjoy a craft beer at Haliburton Highland Brewing. The cost for the Outdoor Kids program, as well as the Falling in Love with Nature, and Kids in the Kitchen programs is $25/per child. The fee for the clay workshop is $35. A full list of events can be found at www.abbeygardens.ca.

The Wolf Centre at Haliburton Forest will be open through March break./Photo submitted

Haliburton Highlands Museum

The Haliburton Highlands Museum also has a wide range of special kids' programs on slate for the break. Museum director and curator Kate Butler said the week's events will get underway on Saturday, March 10 with the launch of local author Marie Gage's new children's book, *Blake's Monkey Adventure*.

To give kids a glimpse of what playtime was like back in the 1800s, she said they are also hosting a Victorian games afternoon on Tuesday, March 13. On Thursday, March 15, South Algonquin Trails is going to bring some of their horses by the museum for a visit to give kids a chance to try horseback riding. She said they are also planning a "super fun" day of activities to celebrate St. Patrick's Day on Friday, March 16. All week long, they will be serving up sweet seasonal treats to visitors, while providing demonstrations on

see page 5

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from page 4

how maple syrup is made.

"Every day during March break we'll be making maple syrup exactly as the early settlers would have," she said.

"It's a great way to connect with our local history in a very tangible way; whether you're getting to taste maple syrup made over an open fire in a 115-year-old sap kettle, or playing the sort of games that children in Haliburton would have played over 100 years ago."

The Haliburton Highlands Museum will be open every day during the March break from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m., and admission for all the events are by donation. Butler said there is no need to register for any of the activities, so the public can drop by at any time to join in the fun. The museum is a wonderful place for a family outing over the March break, she said because it gives people an opportunity to learn something about the history of their community while having a good time.

"It's a place for families to visit together," she said.

"Everyone will learn something during their visit, but they'll also have a lot of fun. Our artifacts also seem to inspire the sharing of family stories across generations, which is always really neat to hear."

Minden Hills Cultural Centre

Adding to the long list of things to do over the break, the Minden Hills Cultural Centre is holding day camps for children seven years old and up. Cultural centre curator Laurie Carmount said each day there will be a different lineup of interactive activities for the children. She said the morning sessions will focus on visual arts, allowing children to work with a variety of mediums; while the afternoon sessions will be a mix of fun games and heritage activities.

"This is a great opportunity for creative kids to grow their skills at art and to learn about early settler life," she said.

The day camp will take place each day from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. at a cost of $10 per day. To register children for the day camp contact: 705-286-3763.

Carmount pointed out that the Agnes Jamieson Gallery will also be open from Tuesday to Saturday from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. She encourages visitors to come by on Saturday to have lunch at Molly's Bistro and then visit the gallery's current exhibition, *Doorways*. She describes the exhibition as a unique showing of concepts derived from a beautifully produced photo/poetry book by Aaron Friend Lettner.

Haliburton Forest

Haliburton Forest a has several things going on during the March break for families to do together. The Forest's general manager of tourism and recreation Tegan Legge said the Wolf Centre will be open throughout the week from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m.; and on Monday, Wednesday and Friday, they are offering enhanced family-oriented programming. As part of the enhanced program, staff will lead kids on a nature-themed scavenger hunt in and around the Wolf Centre. Legge said there will also be arts and crafts for the kids to indulge their creativity.

If weather permits, Haliburton Forest will have dogsled tours and snowmobiles trails available over the break./Photo submitted

"Haliburton Forest offers so many unique experiences that most people haven't had before," she said.

"In a generation where having bragging rights is important, what's cooler than having a selfie with a wolf in the background."

Legge indicated hey are also planning to host sawmill tours and tours of the sugar bush. Pointing out that the weather forecast is calling for a significant snowfall in the next week, she said they are hopeful to have the dogsled tours and snowmobile trails back up and running. If trails aren't permitting for snowmobiling, Legge said ATVers are always welcome to come out and ride the trails. For more information, including a schedule of programs and trail conditions visit: www.haliburtonforest.com.

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Aaron Friend Lettner's exhibition, *Doorways,* encapsulates every part of the arts in a creative way that many of us may crave to do with our own memories.

Doorways

LAURIE CARMOUNT
Special to *County Life*

If you write and enjoy visual arts, and might have wondered what the visual projection of a book you wrote would look like. Visit the Agnes Jamieson Gallery to see the exhibition *Doorways* where Aaron Friend Lettner has done just this.

Lettner has created a beautiful book of photos that also includes his poems. The design incorporates creative use of typography and paper. Photos are placed on the page to evoke the idea of a door. Pages also represent doors. The separation of pages is used as a design element, giving the effect of a mirror; so tightly set, in one instance, the reader must push the pages and peer deeply in to see a small figure. The cleverly used transparent pages, layered to give a number of impressions, are a delight. The quality is impressive, with consideration given to each aspect. It is easy to see how this can be projected to an art exhibition, as the book is a work of art.

There is a wonderful unity to the book set by the selection of photographs. The premise is a journey achieved by images that give a sense of travel in a dreamlike state. There are fragments and glimpses of memories. The photos of clouds are like Dante's *Inferno* illustrations. It has grand cosmic impression to small close personal settings.

When asked about his poetry, Lettner responded, "I consider writing part of my practice as much as photography. Combining the two mediums helps me to achieve a sense of balance in the work; each system supports the other, like in a tree. Branches collect light, and roots stabilize the structure. The photographs themselves are products of light, while the words are made elsewhere, in the recesses of the mind."

The appeal is the flexible placement of images that create different concepts – within your mind to reproduction on bound paper to installation on a wall. This exponentially expands the journey; the thought process and interaction one can have with the work. With this exhibition, these considerations are encouraged with a number of exercises, with the Minden Hills branch of the Haliburton County Public Library, a 500-piece puzzle of the artist's statement, an interactive word wall and an adult workshop on art journals being offered April 19 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. with Noelia Marziali and curator Laurie Carmount. For more information contact the gallery at 705-286-3763.

Aaron's exhibition *Doorways* encapsulates every part of the arts in a creative way that many of us may crave to do with our own memories.

The book *Doorways* received the inaugural Burtynsky Prize, an annual grant established by photographer Edward Burtynsky to support a Canadian artist in the creation of a photobook. *Doorways* was published by Anchorless Press in May 2017 and was featured in the CONTACT Photography Festival.

Aaron Friend Lettner holds a BFA in photography from Ryerson University and lives in Vancouver.

Exhibition is on until April 28. Gallery hours are Tuesday to Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission by donation. 176 Bobcaygeon Rd. in the town of Minden.

Laurie Carmount is curator of the Agnes Jamieson Gallery in Minden.

Top 10 things that are great about turning 80

STEVE GALEA
Humour Columnist

LAST WEEKEND, my dear mother turned 80. This was cause for a celebration and a fun birthday gathering. Yet, when I was there, I couldn't help think that while people often complain about issues associated with turning 80, as my mom demonstrated, there are a lot of good things too.

Here are 10.

1. You can now insert the phrase "fourscore" into everyday sentences.
2. It's also a day to celebrate 15 wonderful years of senior's discounts.
3. If you walk a few blocks, people talk about it like you ran a marathon.
4. The hell with turning your left turn signal off.
5. Best seat in the house every time.
6. Say what you like, if anyone argues with you, you can break into a graphic story about how you changed their diaper.
7. You can dispense medical advice based on personal experience.
8. I don't care what meal you order, some of it will always go home in a doggy bag.
9. A car drops you off and picks you up at the door.
10. Same hairstyle 20 years running.

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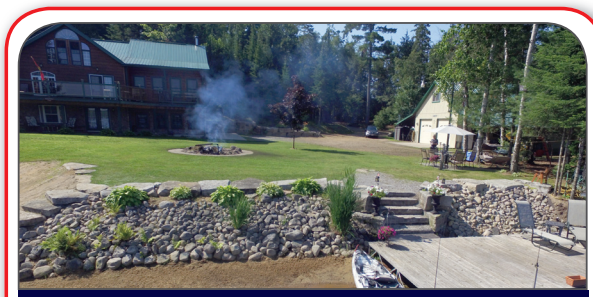

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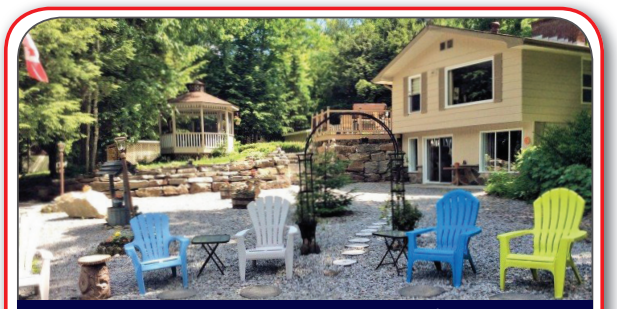

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SILVERADO 1500 DOUBLE CAB CUSTOM EDITION 4X4 MODEL SHOWN

THE 2018 COLORADO Z71 CREW CAB

$179 @ **1.9%~**

BI-WEEKLY LEASE — LEASE RATE

FOR 48 MONTHS ~ WITH $3,350 DOWN PAYMENT WHEN YOU APPLY FOR THE GM CARD OR $4,100 DOWN PAYMENT (INCLUDES $2,500 TOTAL LEASE VALUE)

FEATURES:

- ✓ BEST-IN-CLASS AVAILABLE HORSEPOWER WITH 3.6L₮
- ✓ AVAILABLE SEGMENT-EXCLUSIVE DURAMAX® 2.8L TURBO-DIESEL WITH BEST-IN-CLASS TORQUE, TOWING, AND FUEL EFFICIENCY ∞
- ✓ STANDARD APPLE CARPLAY™ AND ANDROID AUTO™ CAPABILITY AND ONSTAR® 4G LTE WITH BUILT-IN WI-FI® HOTSPOT (3GB/3-MONTH TRIAL) ¥

COLORADO Z71 CREW CAB SHORT BOX MODEL SHOWN

ALL ELIGIBLE 2018 MODELS COME WITH **CHEVROLET COMPLETE CARE**

- 2 YEARS/48,000 KM COMPLIMENTARY OIL CHANGES**
- 5 YEARS/160,000 KM POWERTRAIN WARRANTY†
- ONSTAR 4G LTE WITH WI-FI® HOTSPOT (3-MONTH/3 GB TRIAL)

* $11,000 Total Value: Limited time offer available to qualified retail customers in Canada. $11,000 Total Value is a combined total credit for finance purchases on select new 2018 Silverado 1500 Double Cab Custom Edition 4x4; includes: $4,370 manufacturer to dealer cash credit (tax exclusive), $4,080 non-stackable manufacturer-to-dealer cash credit (tax exclusive), $1,000 GM card application bonus (this offer applies to individuals who have applied for the Scotiabank® GM® Visa* Card [GM card] and to current Scotiabank® GM® Visa* Cardholders) (taxes included). $1,600 manufacturer-to-dealer Truck Month credit (tax exclusive) towards the finance of an eligible new towards the finance of an eligible new 2018 Silverado 1500 Double Cab Custom Edition 4x4 at participating dealers. ^ 2018 Silverado: Eligible new 2018 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 Double Cab Custom Edition: $4,080 manufacturer-to-dealer cash credit (tax exclusive), $1,600 manufacturer-to-dealer (tax exclusive) Truck Month Credit, $1,000 GM Card Application Bonus (offer applies to individuals who apply for a Scotiabank GM Visa Card (GM Card) or current GM Card cardholders) (tax inclusive) and $4,370 manufacturer-to-dealer delivery credit (tax exclusive). Void where prohibited. By selecting lease or finance offers, consumers are foregoing this cash credit which will result in higher effective cost of credit on their transaction. Limited time offer which may not be redeemed for cash and may not be combined with certain other offers. General Motors of Canada may modify, extend or terminate offers in whole or in part at any time without notice. Conditions and limitations apply. See dealer for details. ~ 2018 Colorado Z71 Crew Cab: Lease based on a purchase price of $37,575 for a 2018 Colorado Z71 Crew Cab, includes $500 CDA, $500 Lease Cash Bonus, $750 More Truck Bonus and $750 GM card application bonus (this offer applies to individuals who have applied for the Scotiabank® GM® Visa* Card [GM card] and to current Scotiabank® GM® Visa* Cardholders) (taxes included). Bi-weekly payment is $175 for 48 months at 1.90% lease rate on approved credit to qualified retail customers by GM Financial. Annual kilometer limit of 20,000 km, $0.16 per excess kilometer. $3,360 down payment required. Payment may vary depending on down payment trade. Total obligation is $18,784. Taxes, license, insurance, registration and applicable fees, levies, duties and, except in Quebec, dealer fees (all of which may vary by dealer and region) are extra. Option to purchase at lease end is $17,468. ± Requires Double Cab LTZ 2WD or Crew Cab Short Box LTZ 2WD with available 6.2L V8 engine and Max Trailering Package. Before you buy a vehicle or use it for trailering, carefully review the Trailering section of the Owner's Manual. The weight of passengers, cargo and options or accessories may reduce the amount you can tow. ° Comparison based on WardsAuto.com 2017 Large Pickup segment and latest competitive information available at time of printing. Excludes other GM models ₮ Requires 1500 Double Cab 2WD with available 5.3L V8 engine and Max Trailering Package. These maximum payload ratings are intended for comparison purposes only. Before you buy a vehicle or use it to haul people or cargo, carefully review the Vehicle Loading section of the Owner's Manual and check the carrying capacity of your specific vehicle on the label on the inside of the driver door jamb. ŧ With available 3.6L V6 engine. Based on WardsAuto.com 2018 Small Pickup segment and latest competitive information available at time of posting. Excludes other GM vehicles. ⍰ Based on WardsAuto.com 2018 Small Pickup segment and latest competitive information available at time of posting. Excludes other GM vehicles.. Colorado 2WD with available Duramax 2.8L Turbo-Diesel 4-cylinder engine. Before you buy a vehicle or use it for trailering, carefully review the Trailering section of the Owner's Manual. The weight of passengers, cargo and options or accessories may reduce the amount you can tow. 2018 Colorado 2WD with available Duramax 2.8L Turbo-Diesel fuel consumption rating is 7.9 L/100 km highway and 10.8 L/100 km city. Fuel consumption ratings are based on GM testing in accordance with Government of Canada approved test methods. Refer to vehicles.nrcan.gc.ca for details. Your actual fuel consumption may vary. ¥ 4 Visit onstar.ca for vehicle availability. Services and connectivity vary by model, conditions as well as geographical and technical restrictions. Requires active OnStar service and data plan. Data plans provided by AT&T or its local service provider. Vehicle user interface is a product of Apple and Apple's terms and privacy statements apply. Requires compatible smartphone and data plan rates apply.Vehicle user interface is a product of Google and its terms and privacy statements apply. Requires the Android Auto app on Google Play and an Android compatible smartphone running Android 5.0 Lollipop or higher and data plan rates apply. † Whichever comes first, fully transferable. See dealer for complete details. ** The 2-Year Scheduled LOF Maintenance Program provides eligible customers in Canada who have purchased, leased or financed a new eligible 2017 MY Chevrolet, Buick or GMC vehicle (excluding Bolt EV) with an ACDelco oil and filter change, in accordance with the Oil Life Monitoring System and the Owner's Manual, for 2 years or 48,000 km, whichever occurs first, with a limit of four Lube-Oil-Filter services in total, performed at participating GM dealers. Fluid top-offs, inspections, tire rotations, wheel alignments and balancing, etc., are not covered. This offer may not be redeemed for cash and may not be combined with certain other consumer incentives available on GM vehicles. General Motors of Canada Limited reserves the right to amend or terminate this offer, in whole or in part, at any time without prior notice. Additional conditions and limitations apply. See dealer for details.

The Writers' Circle

A monthly Page of Local Creative Writers' work

The Olympics

Decades ago I was in Olympia where ages ago there had been Olympic games, but there was not much left when I visited. Yet there once had been a fierce competition with a lot of excitement and a lot of importance on who wins and who loses. The same as now, if you care.

My husband and I watched the movie *I, Tonya* recently. There is a moment when Nancy Kerrigan wins silver in the 1994 Winter Olympics in Lillehammer at figure skating. Tonya Harding, who came eighth, looks at Nancy on the podium and comments: "See that face, Nancy looks as if she has just eaten poo. I would have been ecstatic if it had been me."

This year, Yale offers a course called: Psychology and the Good Life. The course, based on research, helps the students to understand what makes one happy and what does not. As opposed to what many expect, what does not affect happiness is good grades and high income. I am sure there is no real difference between good grades and Olympic medals in how it affects one's happiness in the long run. What does affect happiness is taking time for yourself and for your important relationships, keeping a gratitude journal, volunteering and more.

I have heard athletes say that if it is not gold, it does not matter. It is sad. These are fabulous athletes, whether they come first or not, but the whole culture built around it is very demanding, very competitive.

And you don't even have to skate or ski to bask in the glory. Just being from the winning country is enough to feel proud, as if you have accomplished something. Luckily I bask in the glory of the Netherlands and Canada. I remember once, during a vacation in Holland, the TV was on during the world championships ice skating and my nephew-in-law said: "you can't lose, either the Dutchman or the Canadian is going to win."

This year a Dutch-Canadian skater won gold on the 10,000 metre. Now I am really doing well.

Nonsense of course, but still I look at the medals.

I look at it and think it does not matter. Why would it matter what country they come from. Why the big hoopla. The ancient Olympic games and their athletes long forgotten, only the name stayed.

Sometimes politics gets involved, like in 1936 in Berlin.

And maybe sometimes it creates friendships and maybe sometimes it helps with conflicts between countries.

What it also does is separate.

Winners – losers

Good – better

Our national anthem – your national anthem

There is a Dutch word: *sportief*. One of its meanings is being a good loser, being a gracious competitor. Another meaning is being athletic. The word makes a connection between the two, I like that.

So proud to be Dutch.

Anje Bruch-Hilkers
February 17, 2018

White dots

Picture yourself in a new car, one with no key, sunroof and many other buttons you are not familiar with. You have gone shopping, also not usually your job, for a wife who has a bad knee. The car is dirty and the car-wash handy to the grocery store, so you decide to make her really happy and pull in to wash the car.

You open the window, pay with your credit card and move up to the end stopping when you receive the signal to do so.

You are suddenly blind. Little white spots cover you, your glasses and the seats. Too late you realize you have left the sunroof open and struggle in your blindness to put the key in the ignition. It needs you to put your foot on the brake and push the button. It's still just soap but you picture a spray of water in your panic. Finally you find the button, start the car and also find the button to close the sunroof. There you are with gushing water, and relief but you need to get thousands of blobs of soap off the seats and your glasses as you are blind without them. You don't know whether to laugh or cry and begin dabbing Kleenex all over the car seats and your smeared glasses. You say many bad words under your breath but are thankful that you got the darn roof closed before the gush of water began.

You do not tell your wife about this incident. You have another appointment near home and rush to put away food etc. Then you go off having left the sunroof open to dry out the car. It's under a car-port so no worries. The wife with the bad knee sees the roof open, thinks you have forgotten it and hobbles downs the stairs with her cane and starts the car – closes the sunroof.

Shortly a neighbour comes to visit the wife and they sit out on the patio having tea and enjoying a chat in the warm weather. Finally you come home, find them chatting and join them. The neighbour's husband comes over as well and then the truth comes out. Earlier you had talked to the neighbours and told them the story so when the wife mentioned the roof being left open her friend had to pretend she knew nothing about the car wash. A huge laugh was had by all.

As this wife, I haven't laughed this hard in years. The car looks good – no damage done. I still chuckle when I think of you trying to get the roof closed in time to avoid the coming water.

Margot Roberts is a member of the Algonquin Highlands Writer's Circle, a resonance writers group. For more information https://ahwriterscircleblog.wordpress.com

Guitar Strings for Cuba

By chance – or so it seemed, I met Donna at the Eagle Lake Country Market. We both reside in Eagle Lake, Haliburton. I was preparing to leave once again for a personal retreat in Cuba. I was returning to a resort that I have enjoyed over the years mostly because of its warmth in winter, its natural beauty that includes the four basic energy elements – air, sun, mountains/beach, ocean, and its affordability.

Barb, are you going to Cuba this year?

Funny you should ask. I'm here picking up Sunlight Soap bars to take to Cuba. They're hard to find in Haliburton, let alone Cuba. I'm going next week. I'll be driving back to Toronto tomorrow.

Donna, a wonderful musician, vocalist, music teacher and a founding member of the Haliburton County Folk Society asked, Could I give you guitar strings for Cuba?

Amazing! Cuba is a land of musicians! Could I ask you to drop them off at the store tomorrow and I'll get them before heading to Toronto.

Sure. I'm at the store almost every day.

Are you OK with the drop off Nancy, the store owner?

Sure. Her heart was open to what she knew would be a big blessing.

There was a huge, heavy package with my name on it when I passed by the store the next day. Inside were two notes from Donna, a paper one that read, "Thanks for doing this," and a chocolate-shaped musical note.

I emailed Donna, "Mucho gratias!" On this trip to Cuba, I'll focus on bringing the guitar strings.

I have just returned from my two week Cuba retreat. I enjoyed the warmth, the beauty, the energy I received from the four elements and giving away sunlight soap and many guitar strings. I didn't know anything about guitar strings except that they come in packages of six. When the Cuban musicians examined the gauges and materials of the strings, even though they were touched by the generosity, they told me they prefer nylon rather than metal strings.

On my last day at the resort as I was making my way to the dining hall for lunch, I happened to notice a musician in the lobby. Guess what? He was restringing his guitar with the gifted guitar strings.

Wow! You're using the strings! That's wonderful that they're good for your guitar.

Look, my guitar – 13 annos.

It's beautiful and now you can play it again!

Barbara Rosen is a member of the Algonquin Highlands Writer's Circle, a resonance writers group. For more information https://ahwriterscircleblog.wordpress.com

Spring Is the Sweetest Time of the Year at the Haliburton Highlands Museum!

March 10th - 18th from 10am-5pm Maple Fest returns with old-fashioned maple syrup making, tasty treats, kids' crafts and fun contests all week long!

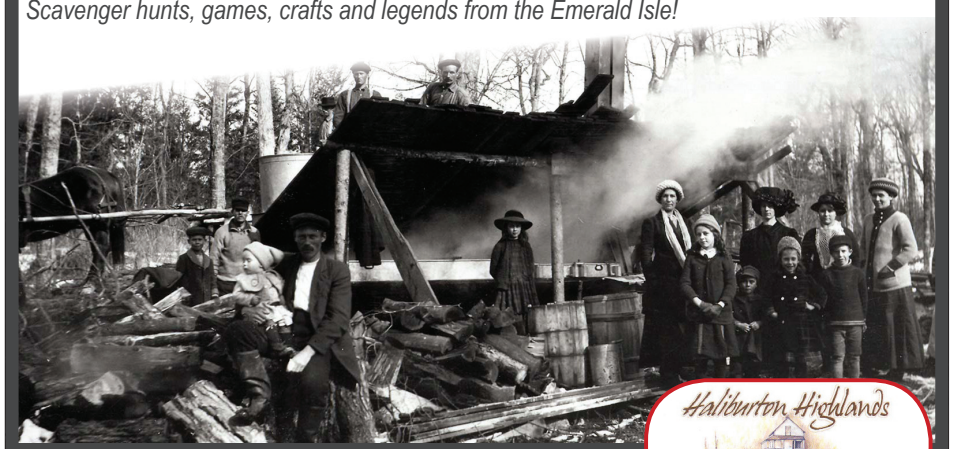
Special Kids' Programs: *Pre-registration not required*

Book Launch: Saturday, March 10th 2-4pm
Blake's Monkey Adventure by local author Marie Gage March 10th 2-4pm

Victorian Games Afternoon: Tuesday, March 13th 1-3pm
The kind of games kids in Haliburton would have played over 100 years ago – no batteries required!

Meet and Greet with the Horses of South Algonquin Trails:
Thursday, March 15th 1-3pm
The horses of South Algonquin Trails are coming west to Glebe Park on a March Break holiday! This is a great opportunity for kids and adults alike to learn more about these sweet and majestic creatures!

Life of a Leprechaun: Friday, March 16th, 11am-3pm
Scavenger hunts, games, crafts and legends from the Emerald Isle!



Haliburton Highlands Museum

For more information, call 705-457-2760 or e-mail info@haliburtonhighlandsmuseum.com

UPCOMING Community Events

PARISH HOME INSPECTIONS

Want to get your event in Community Calendar? It's free! Contact Pat at classifieds@haliburtonpress.com.

Upcoming Events

March Break
When: March 9-18
Where: Sir Sam's Ski / Ride
A great time to ski/snowboard. Watch for a full list of family activities, events and special offers.
Contact: chris@sirsams.com 705-754-2298

March Break Day Camp
When: March 9, 12-16, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Where: Deep Roots Adventure Hub
March Break Fun! Includes 2 healthy snacks and lunch. $45 per youth, discounts avail.
Contact: 705-448-9888/info@deeprootsadventure.com

Open Stage - Haliburton County Folk Society
When: March 10, 8 p.m.
Where: Haliburton Highlands Museum
Come play, come listen. Admission by donation. Featured performers and hosts are Cheeky Monkey.
Contact: info@haliburtonfolk.com 705-754-3655 www.haliburtonfolk.com

Haliburton Kawartha Lakes First Tapping Ceremony
When: Sat. March 10, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Where: 1255 Peterson Road, Minden (in Carnarvon)
The Colour of Wood Maple Syrup
Free Event. For all ages.
Come to our sugar bush and see how maple syrup is made.
807 632 2611

Go Wild for Wildlife
Fundraising gala for Woodlands Wildlife Sanctuary
When: Saturday, March 10
Where: Pinestone Resort
A gala evening of live music by Custom Blend, a delicious vegetarian buffet dinner, silent and live auction and Mike Jaycock as MC and auctioneer. Plenty of items to be won in silent and live auctions.
Contact: Tickets are $50 and can be purchased at www.woodlandswildlifesanctuary.ca or by calling 705-286-1133.

Gord Kidd & Friends Ian Pay and Scott Russell in the Clubroom
When: Saturday, March 10, 4 to 7 p.m.
Where: Haliburton Legion, Clubroom
Cost: $5 cover charge for non members. 50/50 draw at 6 p.m. Enjoy delicious meal for $6 by the Ladies Auxiliary. www.haliburtonlegion.com

Haliburton: Sexual Health Clinic
When: Wednesday, March 14, 10:30 am to 12:30 pm.
The clinic provides clients with confidential access to cervical screening, low-cost birth control, pregnancy testing and sexual health teaching. Testing and treatment of sexually transmitted infections are also provided. For more information, locations or to make an appointment, call the Health Unit at 1-866-888-4577, ext. 2205.

Haliburton Highlands Land Trust Discovery Days 2018
Reptile Road Show
When: Saturday March 17, 10 a.m. to noon
Where: Haliburton Fish Hatchery
The knowledgeable folks from Scales Nature Park will bring a variety of snakes and turtles for us to see, touch and learn about. It's a chance to get up close and personal with some amazing reptiles. The show starts right at 10:00am. Tickets must be purchased online at www.haliburtonlandtrust.ca under the Events tab, or at our office, call 705-457-3700. Funded in part by TD Friends of the Environment. Admission $15 adult, $10 child 12 and under, family pass $30.

4th Annual CURRY CHEVROLET
EASTER EGG HUNT
Free Photos with Easter Bunny
Face Painting
Balloon Creations
Friday March 30th @ 10:00am
Curry's Lot - 5065 Cty Rd 21 Haliburton
Bring along your Easter baskets for a fun hunt with your family!
Register at https://curryegghunt.eventbrite.ca
Any questions contact Cheryl Smith @ 705-455-2500
CURRY
GMC

Legion Events

Branch 636, Minden
Upcoming events - Karaoke March 2 at 7:30 p.m.,
Gord Kidd March 3 2 to 5 p.m., Food available, admission by donation.
Monthly Sunday Euchre March 4 at 12 p.m.
Monday – Thursday Lunch 12 to 2 p.m.
Tuesday Special liver day, regular menu also.
Friday 12 to 2 p.m. and 5 to 7 p.m., Fish, Chicken Wings, Fries and Onion Rings.
Daily events:
Monday 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Haliburton Highlands Rug Hookers. (every two weeks)
Tuesday 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Senior art group. 1:00-4:00, Bid Euchre,
Wednesday 12:00- Meat Draws, 4 butcher quality meats for $1.00 a ticket. 1 to 4 p.m., Ladies Darts, 5 to 7 p.m. Calorie Counters.
Thursday 7 p.m. Darts. 7 p.m. Euchre
Friday Every second week, Karaoke with Fred and Linda, 7:30 to 11:30 p.m.
Saturday Special Lunch every week with meat Draw at 1 p.m.
Sunday Sports Day 12 to 4:30 p.m.

Branch 624, Wilberforce
Friday Community Care Lunch 12:00pm
Call Denice Butler to reserve 705-448-8865
Everyone 55+ Welcome!! $15/person.
Saturday Meat Draw 2pm Early Bird 3pm Sharp
Monday Bid Euchre 7 p.m. Come out and learn! Beginners welcome.
Wednesday Fun Darts 7:30 p.m. Everyone welcome
Upcoming Events
St. Patricks Day Dance, Saturday, March 17, DJ Mike - $5.00 cover tickets available at the bar

Branch 129, Haliburton
Dave Allen, PRO 705-457-2571
Mondays: Bridge every Monday at 1p.m.
Tuesdays: Tuesday Night Dart League starting at 7p.m.
Wednesdays: Bid Euchre 1 p.m. start Bingo Doors open at 6 p.m. Bingo starts at 7 p.m. - $500 Jackpot, $1000 Jackpot - last Wednesday of the month.
Thursdays: General Meeting third Thursday of the month starting at 7 p.m. All members urged to attend. Ladies Auxiliary last Thursday of the month at 1 p.m.
Fridays: Cribbage 1 p.m. start, Meat Draw Five Draws, Five Prizes each draw, First draw at 4:30 p.m., last draw - 6:30 p.m. Tickets are $2 per draw. Chester Howse, MC Friday fun darts - 4:30 p.m. onwards
Saturdays: 50/50 Draw 4 p.m. draw, Tickets are $1 each from noon onwards
Sundays: Breakfast Second and fourth Sunday of the month – 9:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. $6 per person. Occasional volunteers are needed.

Live entertainment featuring Gord Kidd and Friends Saturday, March 10, 4 to 7 p.m. in the Club Room. Enjoy a delicious meal for only $6 prepared by the Ladies Auxiliary. $5 cover charge for non members.
St. Patrick's Day luncheon in the Main Hall Friday March 16, 11:30-1:30pm. Irish stew, coleslaw and dessert prepared by the Ladies Auxiliary for only $10 per person/$5 kids 12 and under.
Whether you're planning a function for 10 or 200, for more information call the Legion today at **(705) 457- 2571**, email **rcl129@bellnet.ca** or visit **haliburtonlegion.com** Come on out and support Haliburton Legion Branch 129, everyone is welcome!

Haliburton
(705) 457–2128

Minden
(705) 286–2138

Carnarvon
(705) 489–9968

Kennisis/Redstone
(705) 754–1932

Wilberforce
(705) 448–2311

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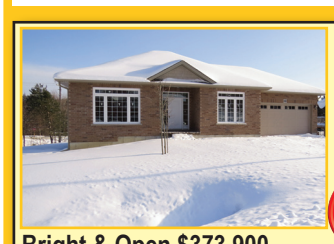
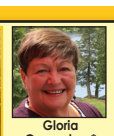
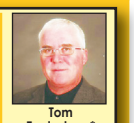
Be Global



Rosemarie Jung* 457-7049
SOLD
Bright & Open $373,900
• Offering discerning home buyers the workmanship, energy efficiency & detail they expect!


Gloria Carnochan* 754-1932
ACREAGE
West Guilford $89,000
• 22. 4 acres, forested, with creek (Hurricane)
• 941' on Cnty Rd 6, Many Bldg Sites
• Walking distance to village & lake

Mark Dennys* 457-0473
Let's list your property in time for the 2018 Cottage Life Show!
• Toronto International Center, Mar 22 to 25, active buyers! Call me for a FREE Market Evaluation!


Tom Ecclestone* 286-2138 x 26
Minden Live Bait & Tackle
• Established recreational/sporting goods business
• Turnkey operation, attractive leasing terms
• Contact Tom Ecclestone for further details

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David Lee*
286–2138 x 27

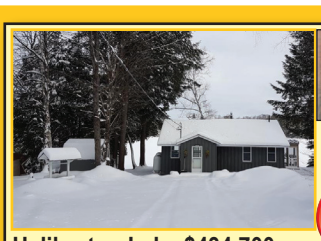
Cottage Life Show 2018

List NOW to have your property featured, 30 Years' experience in Real Estate. Listing & Selling the Haliburton Highland's Lifestyle

Brandon Nimigon*
457–2128 x 27

Haliburton Starter Home $189,900

- Turnkey home, country kitchen & 2 bdrms
- Corner lot, walking distance to Haliburton
- Extensive recent upgrades, call for details!

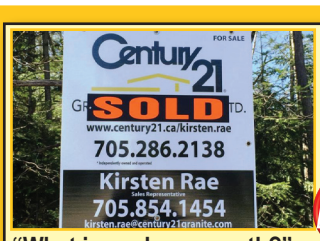


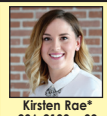
Karen Nimigon**
457–2128 x 29

SOLD

Haliburton Lake $434,700

- Turnkey, Open concept interior, 3 bedrooms
- Updated & renovated, new siding & windows
- Lot of green space, large lake, 18+ miles of boating





Kirsten Rae*
286-2138 x 30

SUMMER IS COMING

"What is my home worth?"

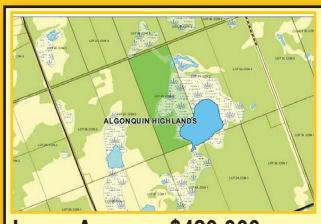
Call me TODAY for a free market evaluation! The current Sellers' Market is the perfect time to list your home or cottage.

Darlene Reil*
447-2055

NEW LISTING

Wilbermere Lake Access $249,000

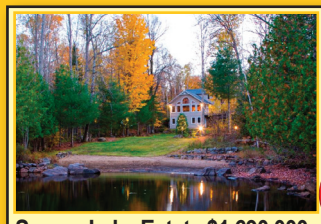
- Lovely 3 bedroom residential home
- Walking distance to deeded lake access



Christine Sharp*
286-2138 x59

Large Acreage $420,000

- 198 Acres of pasture & woods
- Small Pond & stone walls
- Driveway in, ready to build



Greg Stamp*
457-2128 x 28

SOLD

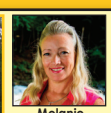
Soyers Lake Estate $1,690,000

- Point lot, nice beach area w/600 ft fr & 1.47 acres
- Yr-round, 4 bdrms, 2.5 baths, att'd dbl car garage
- Open concept, lrg principle rooms, 2 stone FPs

Elizabeth Thompson*
457-2128 x 52

Diamond Lake Lot $114,900

- Lovely lot on a deep, clean lake
- Off a year round road with driveway Installed
- Site has been cleared, 15 mins to Bancroft



Melanie Vigrass*
286-2138 x 32

Minden Lot $99,000

- Just North of Minden
- 3.5 Acre Lot, 778' Road Frontage
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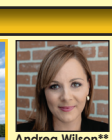

Andrea Wilson**
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West Lake Lots from $239,900

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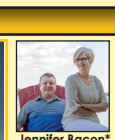

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Dean Michel*
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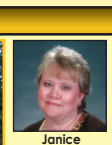

Janice Brookes*
457-2128 x 22

Soyers Lake Road $21,900

- Great rolling lot - Central Location
- Close to many lakes and beaches
- Outlined in trees with clearing within

Kim Butt*
286-2138 x31

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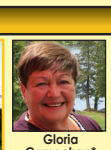

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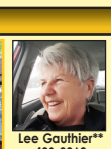

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Trooper Lake $349,900

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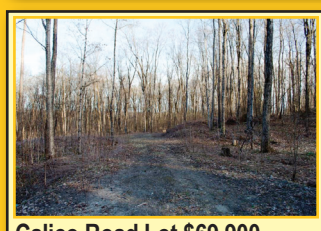

Scott Harrison*
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Kids for Play to provide inexpensive after-school fun

JENN WATT
County Life Editor

Each Wednesday after school from March 21 to June 6, a new program will be filling the gymnasium at Stuart Baker Elementary School with fun affordable activities for children.

Kids for Play, a new initiative organized by parents and community members, is bringing games, crafts, dance and music to the school for children ages six to nine.

"The idea started with a group of parents and community members that met in April 2017 and they all kind of had a common goal to increase affordable access to youth recreation in the county," says Amanda Duncombe-Lee, one of the organizers.

In June of last year, the group put out a survey asking parents to tell them what was needed for their kids. More than 130 families filled out the survey.

"There was a very strong indication that more programming was needed," she says.

Using information from the surveys, the committee selected Wednesdays after school until 5 p.m. at SBES for the program. Parents had indicated that cost was a factor, so Kids for Play will charge $24 per child, which covers the full 12 weeks (that breaks down to $2 a session).

"The short-term objective is to provide affordable, safe and quality recreation for children in the six to nine age range and promote their social and emotional development. The long-term goal is to get them more engaged in activities in the community," Duncombe-Lee says.

Funding for the project came from fundraising done at the hot chocolate stand during the Haliburton Santa Claus Parade, from Haliburton Highlands Team Remax and from the Haliburton and District Lions Club.

Other supporters are numerous and include SBES, Dysart et al, the health unit, library and U-Links Centre for Community Based Research.

Fay Martin, a local academic and organizer, will be conducting research to follow-up on the success of the program, which the committee is hoping can continue next school year.

Programming will include music with Sean Pennylegion; crafts with Abbey Gardens staff; dance with Jordy Schell; theatre with Kate Butler; mini-makers (coding, working with robots) with Noelia Marziali from the library; board games with Steven Lee; and yoga with Gail Holness.

Sessions will be facilitated by Dysart et al's recreation co-ordinator Andrea Mueller along with another staff member and volunteers.

"Andrea's going to start and end each session with activity-based learning," Duncombe-Lee says. "There'll be warm-ups and cool downs. She'll have some equipment for that."

The program is filling up quickly. There are 30 spots, which as of publication were half filled. Parents have until Monday, March 19 at noon to sign up and pay the registration fee at the Dysart et al municipal office in Haliburton.

To find a registration form, go to www.dysartetal.ca and click on the "kids for play" link. For more information email Mueller at amueller@dysartetal.ca or call 705-457-1740 ext. 35.

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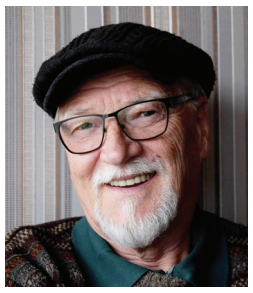
Musician and teacher, Stan Russell: a profile

A COUPLE OF weeks ago I wrote about the amazing talent to be found in Gelert. To prove the point I decided this week to write about my neighbour Stan Russell. Like many of us, Stan is originally from Toronto, but had been coming up to his parent's cottage in Gelert since the 1960s. In '80s Russell purchased property adjacent to his parents. Nowadays Russell might be best known to Highlanders as a music teacher, but he's had a fabulous career as a professional musician, with so many great stories to tell. I only wish I had space to tell them.



GEORGE FARRELL

On Arts

Russell was born into a musical family. Both his grandfather (also named Stan), who played with the world famous Guy Lombardo orchestra, and father Dalton were musicians. Dalton senior (Stan's brother is also named Dalton), played upright bass, trombone and tuba. He played with the Tommy Dorsey orchestra and other big bands, such as Moxy Whitney's.

The big band era, from the 1930s to the 1950s represented the golden years for working musicians in Toronto. They worked often, worked hard, and became excellent at their craft. "That's what I knew musicians were supposed to be," said Stan Russell. "You worked like a son of a gun." Though the music scene had changed by the late 1960s – smaller jazz combos, blues and rock bands taking over from the big band sound – working musicians in Toronto could still make a living, and Russell managed to catch the tail end of the working wave.

Stan started playing piano at the age of six but soon fell in love with the bass and guitar. He started playing in bands in high school, and by his early 20s he was playing electric bass with seasoned professionals. But on his way to putting in his 10,000 hours he managed to find the time to become a student of music by attending classes at Humber College and an advanced jazz workshop at York University. He also spent four years studying orchestration and composition under the tutelage of classical composer Robert Mundinger, who was a student of the famed pianist/composer/conductor Igor Stravinsky.

In the late 1970s Russell was playing six nights a week and a matinee on Saturday afternoons. Over the years Stan has played in all kinds of different bands: rock, jazz, blues, classical, klezmer and zydeco. He has played gigs with jazz flutist Catherine Moses and blues with Lance Anderson. He's played for prime ministers and for governors general. But it's the older musicians of his father's generation that influenced Stan Russell the most.

"The older musicians were my educators," Russell said. "People who played with the likes of [jazz greats] Charlie Parker, Lester Young, Cannonball Adderly and Art Blakey. You learn by osmosis when you've played with them."

By the 1980s the live music club gigs in Toronto had started to dry up, so in a change of lifestyles Stan moved up to the Highlands with wife Kim to raise a family. The couple have two daughters Naomi and Noelle, and son Nick, who is making a name for himself with his excellent skill on guitar.

"Nick has become such a great jazz/fusion player," Stan states proudly. "I've booked him on a couple of my own gigs, and he's booked me on a couple of his."

For years after the move north Stan would make trips to Toronto for performances, but slowly he established a reputation as a musician in the Highlands, playing for corporate affairs at the Pinestone and Wigamog, among other engagements.

"I guess I brought a Toronto head space of pro musicians," Stan said. "I got so busy here that I remember doing a solo gig for an afternoon wedding at the Bonnie View Inn. Then I took a boat across the lake to the Wigamog Inn for another ceremony with a trio. Then it was back to the Bonnie View to play some dinnertime jazz. Later that evening, for the dance, I played with a rock band."

About 15 years ago Stan started teaching music, and with his direct link to jazz greats and that osmosis, many of his students have gone on to study music in college. Some now have music careers of their own: Cassidy Glecoff and her bandmates Lucas and Marcus Bortolussi, and Jaden Bull, to name but a few.

Stan Russell still takes trips to Toronto to do corporate shows with long-time friend, violinist Jef Tenkortedaar, but those trips are less frequent now. Stan is content teaching from his downtown Minden studio, taking the occasional paying gig and, with me at least, reminiscing about the good old days, when musicians lived hard, played hard, and had a grand old time doing so.

Gelert-based musician Stan Russell has played for prime ministers and governors general. Today, he teaches music in Minden.

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Registration ends Monday, March 19th, 2018 at noon. Spaces will fill quickly so please register now!

Information and registration forms available from Andrea Mueller (Municipality of Dysart).

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Dysart Recreation Coordinator
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Minden

Number 1620

Monday, March 14, 1994

Eight students from Archie Stouffer Public School were in the spotlight at the Royal Canadian Legion in Minden last week for the public speaking contest. Pictured with Legion representative Lois Adamson, are the competitors. They are: front row (l to r) Becky Wallace (second, junior), Kate Herning (first, junior), Ryan White, Jacob Poirier and Shawna Ray (third, junior). Back row (l to r) Jennifer Wales (third, intermediate), Ryan Dawson (second, intermediate), Luke Lester (first, intermediate) and Lois Adamson.

Colourful candidates in Kinmount

Thursday evening in Kinmount wasn't without its colourful moments.

The all-candidates meeting featured tempers, name calling and a near expulsion.

Candidate John Tremel took offense at not being asked to respond to a question. His protests prompted moderator Clayton Cameron to order Tremel to settle down or leave. The meeting was temporarily adjourned and Cameron was about to escort the offender to the door when cooler heads prevailed. Tremel later rejoined the panel.

"Young and fresh" Brad Bradamore says he'll fix the government.

Brad Bradamore added some colour of a different sort, breaking up the seriousness of the occasion by interjecting some comic relief that seemed to be appreciated by the crowd. "You're lucky. I'm still young, and fresh and clean blood," he said, responding to a question from the audience. "I'll fix it for you."

Liberal candidate Sharon McCrae took the opportunity to lash out at the Tory ad campaign hinting that she and her party supports legislation that would allow spousal benefits for same-sex couples. She vehemently denied any support of such legislation.

See pages 2, 5 and 6 for more coverage

Local taxpayers could be asked for $45 each to support county government

Unless severe cuts are made, County taxpayers will see another $45 added to their tax bills.

The Haliburton County Board of Education and County Council are each struggling to bring down their 1994 budgets under the watchful eye of the Taxpayers' Coalition.

The school board is looking at a preliminary budget that represents a 3.9 per cent increase in taxes. This increase, if approved, would mean an average increase of about $20.

County Council opened its budget deliberations looking at a 30 per cent hike. Last week councillors pared this down to 19 per cent and then held a meeting to seek public input.

An 18.7 per cent increase in the county levy would mean an average tax increase of about $25.

The school board is now in the process of weighing the impact of further cuts to its budget. The board's administrative committee presented a list of possible cuts to the management committee last Tuesday, which trustees will consider before final passage of the budget.

After trimming more than 11 per cent out of its budget, county council will be hard pressed to find room for further cuts. In fact, councillors may be adding to its expenses in order to further subsidize the Chamber of Commerce.

Council has budgeted $50,420 for the chamber, which matches last year's grant. The chamber, however, is asking for $89,000.

At the close of last Wednesday's public meeting, the chamber made its pitch to council. Warden Jim McMahon said he was impressed with the presentation and the active manner with which the chamber has been promoting the county.

Council, however, was not prepared to immediately deal with this request for an increased grant. McMahon said it will be addressed further on March 16, prior to the final review and passage of the budget.

Education and county taxes are over and above whatever levies are set by the individual municipalities. In Minden, this increase is expected to be minimal.

Council applies for infrastructure funds

The Anson, Hindon and Minden Council has agreed to apply for $656,000 in federal assistance under the infrastructure program. The resolution endorsing the application was made at the March 10 meeting.

According to an announcement made at the time, council believes the municipal share of the funding, $328,000 can be found, "...with little or no increase in the general mill rate." The total value of the projects being proposed under the program in $984,000.

Among the projects approved under this plan, in the order of priority set by the council, were:

- Office expansion and retro-fit $424,000
- River bank restoration $170,000
- Upgrades to the sanitary sewer system and water system $110,000
- Replace major culverts in the road system $60,000
- Reconstruction of the Bobcaygeon Road $200,000
- Tennis court rehabilitation $20,000

According to the council, the impact of this work will be felt this year and continue into 1995.

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